

**Table 1**  
**State Policies Related to Public Lands**

<i>Policies</i>	<i>Related NRS Sections or Policy Documents</i>
<p><b>1. State Goals Related to Management of Federal Lands &amp; Related Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Manage &amp; utilize public lands on the basis of multiple use &amp; sustained yield, &amp; in a manner that will conserve, protect &amp; preserve resources. Protect &amp; preserve wildlife habitat &amp; certain lands in their natural condition. Provide for the long-term benefit of residents &amp; future generations.</li> <li>B. Maintain &amp;/or increase cooperation &amp; coordination between agencies at all levels of government. Facilitate effective &amp; beneficial planning &amp; management of resources.</li> <li>C. Retain existing access to public lands &amp; provide new access where necessary. Develop &amp; maintain transportation &amp; utility corridors across public lands while respecting other resource values.</li> <li>D. Recognize that agricultural production is necessary &amp; is especially important to local economies in rural areas. Develop policies &amp; regulations that provide for the long-term productivity &amp; availability of public lands for agriculture.</li> <li>E. Recognize that mining is desirable &amp; necessary, particularly to rural counties. Retain existing mining areas &amp; promote the expansion of mining, while respecting other resource values.</li> <li>F. Develop, conserve &amp; protect recreational resources for the benefit of present &amp; future generations.</li> <li>G. Coordinate efforts to understand &amp; protect the quality of the environment &amp; natural ecosystems, while considering impacts on Nevada's residents &amp; communities</li> <li>H. Support the preservation of viable herds of wild horses &amp; burros &amp; minimize their detrimental impacts on other multiple uses. Pursue resource enhancement to correct wild horse &amp; burro damage.</li> <li>I. Identify, protect &amp; preserve wildlife species &amp; habitats.</li> <li>J. Conserve &amp; protect historic &amp; prehistoric resources.</li> </ul>	<p>These goals were adopted by the Governor in 1986 as part of the "Nevada Statewide Policy Plan for Public Lands" (prepared by Nevada's counties, cities &amp; the Nevada Division of State Lands (NDSL) in 1985)</p>

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<p><b>2. State Definition of Multiple Use &amp; Sustained Yield</b></p> <p>Multiple use is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using resources in the combination that best meets the needs of the state’s residents</li> <li>• using lands &amp; resources in areas large enough to allow for periodic adjustments when needs change</li> <li>• using lands for less than all of their available resources</li> <li>• a balanced &amp; diverse use of resources that takes into account a wide variety of human &amp; natural needs</li> <li>• harmonious &amp; coordinated management of lands &amp; resources without permanent impairment of their productivity &amp; quality of the environment; including consideration of the relative values of resources</li> </ul> <p>Sustained yield is defined as: maintaining a high-level yield of renewable resources consistent with multiple use</p>	NRS 321.0005
<p><b>3. Selected Nevada Division of Conservation District Policies Involving Public Lands</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Encourage conservation of private &amp; public range resources</li> <li>B. Support the use of Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) throughout the state on public &amp; private lands</li> <li>C. Promote implementation of “total resource planning” on all rangelands through CRMP groups</li> <li>D. Encourage conservation &amp; wise use of surface &amp; subsurface water supplies &amp; support sound planning at all levels of government</li> <li>E. Assist other state &amp; local entities in assessing the impacts of military land &amp; airspace withdrawals on human &amp; natural resources</li> <li>F. Assist in developing special management plans for critical erosion areas &amp; encourage the installation of needed erosion control measures on all conservation district lands</li> </ul>	These policies are from the report: “Conservation 2000”, Nevada State Conservation Commission, 1986

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<p><b>3. Selected Nevada Division of Conservation District Policies Involving Public Lands (cont.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G. Cooperate with all efforts to improve surface &amp; subsurface water quality</li> <li>H. Encourage the protection &amp; enhancement of wildlife habitat on both private &amp; public lands</li> <li>I. Encourage greater conservation district involvement in wild horse &amp; burro management by assisting public land management agencies</li> </ul>	<p>These policies are from the report: “Conservation 2000”, Nevada State Conservation Commission, 1986</p>
<p><b>4. NDSL Shall Prepare, in Cooperation With Federal, State &amp; Local Agencies, Plans or Statements of Policy Concerning Lands Managed by the Federal Government; NDSL Shall:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Identify federal lands that are suitable for acquisition</li> <li>B. Not include matters concerning zoning or the division of land</li> <li>C. Encourage public comment throughout the plan’s preparation &amp; incorporate such comments as appropriate</li> <li>D. Submit its work on a plan or statement of policy periodically for review &amp; comment to the land use planning advisory council, the advisory board on natural resources &amp; legislative committees &amp; commissions dealing with public land matters</li> </ul> <p>A Plan or Statement of Policy Must be Approved by the Governing Bodies of Affected Counties &amp; Cities Before It is Put into Effect (Once plans are put into effect, BLM, USFS &amp; other federal agencies are required by federal law to address them as well as other plans &amp; policies of state &amp; local agencies)</p>	<p>NRS 321.7355</p>
<p><b>5. NDSL Shall Develop &amp; Make Available to Cities &amp; Counties Useful Planning Information Related to Public Lands, Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. An inventory of state, local government &amp; private needs &amp; priorities concerning the acquisition &amp; use of federal lands</li> </ul>	<p>NRS 321.720, sub-sections 5, 8, 9 &amp; 10</p>

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<p><b>5. NDSL Shall Develop &amp; Make Available to Cities &amp; Counties Useful Planning Information Related to Public Lands (cont.),</b> Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>B. Coordination &amp; exchange of planning information &amp; data among state &amp; local agencies, with the federal government, other states, interstate agencies &amp; the public</li> <li>C. Coordination of planning for state &amp; local acquisition &amp; use of federal lands</li> <li>D. Provision of assistance to counties to develop programs to increase the responsibilities of local governments for managing lands under federal management</li> </ul>	<p>NRS 321.720, sub-sections 5, 8, 9 &amp; 10</p>
<p><b>6. It is State Policy to Continue to Seek Acquisition of Federal Lands Within its Borders</b></p>	<p>NRS 321.00051</p>
<p><b>7. NDSL May Represent the Interests of the State, Local or Regional Entities, or its Citizens With Respect to the Use of Federal Land. NDSL Also Will Assist Local Governments With Acquiring Federal Land Under the Recreation &amp; Public Purposes Act of 1926</b></p>	<p>NRS 321.735; Regarding the Recreation &amp; Public Purposes Act: NRS 321.605 &amp; 321.610</p>
<p><b>8. NDSL Shall Work With Federal Agencies &amp; Assure the Interests of the State &amp; Local Governments are Addressed;</b> Specifically, NDSL Shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Establish &amp; maintain positive working relationships with all federal land management agencies to assure state &amp; local government participation in federal actions.</li> <li>B. Help local governments develop plans &amp; policies for federal lands.</li> <li>C. Assure the interests &amp; policies of local governments are considered &amp; addressed by federal agencies.</li> <li>D. Respond promptly to federal land planning initiatives &amp; proposals.</li> </ul>	<p>These objectives &amp; policies are specific to NDSL &amp; are from the 1998-2003 DCNR Strategic Plan (DCNR, 1998)</p>

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<p><b>9. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Policies Related to Wilderness Study Areas</b></p> <p>DCNR supports the establishment of wilderness areas in accordance with the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Wilderness evaluations should include a thorough analysis of all resources and federal decision documents should show the procedures used to weigh competing values</li> <li>B. Designated wilderness should generally include the best examples of the geographic areas &amp; ecosystems found in Nevada. Evaluations should be based on the unique physiographic regions of Nevada</li> <li>C. Wilderness should be considered only one of the tools available to protect resources &amp; each area should be analyzed separately to select the best approach</li> <li>D. Wilderness evaluations should include a thorough analysis of the effects wilderness designation would have on the economy of affected areas and the state</li> <li>E. Areas having good potential for mineral, oil &amp; gas or geothermal production should generally not be designated wilderness. Wilderness studies should evaluate all available mineral resource data, including contacts with mining-related companies in the area.</li> <li>F. Areas containing roads should be excluded from wilderness designation &amp; roads should not be closed to create or expand wilderness areas.</li> <li>G. Wilderness studies should include maps legibly depicting all of the known resources which might be affected by wilderness designation</li> <li>H. Conflicts among competing resources often can be resolved by adjusting boundaries. Such adjustments should not be done if they cause management problems.</li> <li>I. Wilderness boundaries should be physically recognizable on the ground, when possible, to enhance manageability</li> </ul>	<p>DCNR developed these policies in 1983 as input into the BLM wilderness area evaluations conducted from 1983 to 1985. They are not found in NRS or other published documents.</p>

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<p><b>10. NDSL Policies Related to Federal Land Exchanges &amp; Sales:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Exchanges are not the preferred method of federal land disposal if they adversely impact local communities &amp; governments</li> <li>B. Sales are usually the preferred method of disposal</li> <li>C. Exchanges are the preferred method of disposal only when nearly equal amounts of land are exchanged in the same county (usually to eliminate “checkerboard” patterns of ownership)</li> <li>D. Exchanges should not lead to a net increase in the total amount of federal land in the state</li> </ul>	<p>These policies are not found in NRS or other published documents. They have been applied when reviewing documents for the state clearinghouse &amp; when representing the state’s interests during proposed exchanges of federal lands.</p>
<p><b>11. NDSL Policies Regarding Military Activities; NDSL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Recognizes the need for a strong &amp; well-trained military</li> <li>B. Recognizes the benefits to the state &amp; local areas from military activities</li> <li>C. Supports continued military activities in Nevada, but is sensitive to land, water &amp; other natural resource issues associated with such activities</li> <li>D. Expects that problems &amp; impacts associated with military activities will be minimized or mitigated</li> <li>E. Encourages the military to identify, justify &amp; plan future activities in an open, collaborative manner</li> <li>F. Expects the military to involve all affected public interests &amp; agencies when considering changes or expansion of activities</li> <li>G. Promotes the multiple use of land &amp; resources used by the military whenever feasible &amp; judicious</li> <li>H. Encourages joint use of facilities to minimize impacts on resources</li> <li>I. Expects the military to be good stewards of the land &amp; resources</li> <li>J. Encourages the military to minimize the impacts their air operations have on private &amp; commercial aviation needs over the state</li> <li>K. Expects the military to be sensitive to the concerns of rural residents most affected by military operations &amp; be responsive to their needs</li> </ul>	<p>These policies are not found in NRS or other published documents. They have been applied when reviewing documents for the state clearinghouse &amp; when representing the state’s interests on military issues.</p>